

## CITY OF SHERMAN.

Its Past History, Present Standing, and Future Prospects Portrayed in Detail.

Grayson's Capital an Important Educational, Commercial and Agricultural Center.

The County Seat of the Most Populous and Productive County, and Its Leading Institutions.

The Agencies That Are At Work to Make Sherman One of the Greatest Cities of Texas.

### EARLY DAYS.

There are few places more worthy of an exhaustive pen portraiture than the city of Sherman. Among the towns of Texas it stands in the foremost ranks. Its people are noted for their refinement, hospitality and intelligence. It merits far better treatment than is contained in the following sketch, which is too brief and imperfect to adequately describe one of the prettiest, most progressive and prosperous towns in the great Lone Star state.

Sherman is yet very young. It was in the spring of 1848 that the present location of the seat of justice for Grayson county was selected. The records show that eighty acres of land were donated for that purpose by Samuel Blagg to the chief justice of the county, November 23, 1848. The first building was a court-house—a very modest affair when compared with the handsome and costly structure that now serves as the temple of justice; in fact it was a rude log hut of only one room, minus floor, place and furniture. Charles Carter was the first settler. The house built by him is still in good condition and is now occupied by Mr. G. Milton, one of the pioneers of the city. During the summer of 1848 Frank Richards opened the first store in a small building on the northeast corner of the square. He carried out with a small stock that he brought to the

management of Mr. William Buteen, and is a paying enterprise.

### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The excellent fire service is worthy of note. In addition to a hook and ladder apparatus there is a magnificent new Silsby engine which, together with the equipment on hand, is valued at \$10,000. Two handsome and splendidly trained horses are the especial pride of the volunteer firemen. The greatest drawback to the efficiency of the department hitherto has been the lack of water, but now that the city has decided to build water-works (an agreement to that effect having already been made with a skilled engineer) the fire service of Sherman will have its capacity for usefulness largely increased.

The officers of the department are: Jake W. Levy, chief; L. C. Gilmore, assistant chief; C. C. Moore, treasurer.

### The Driving Park.

Sherman Blooded Stock and Driving Park association was organized September 10, 1883, and incorporated. The grounds are located at the end of South Travis street and include 100 acres. The course is a full mile, and regarded as a very fast one. The grand-stand is two stories high, and, besides good seating facilities, there is room for dancing, refreshments, etc. Within the inclosure are beautiful shade-trees and drives, and the park is made historical from the fact that a lovely grove of about ten acres is set apart for the use of the old settlers of Grayson county, who hold meetings there once a year to talk over "the olden days." The park is most conveniently located and is all the while becoming more and more popular as a place of public resort. The annual fall races with horsemen there is no place in the Texas circuit that is more highly esteemed than Sherman, which is owing in no small degree to the excellent accommodations and conveniences of the beautiful driving park.

### A HEALTHFUL CITY.

Climate, Water and Location All Combine to Promote Longevity.

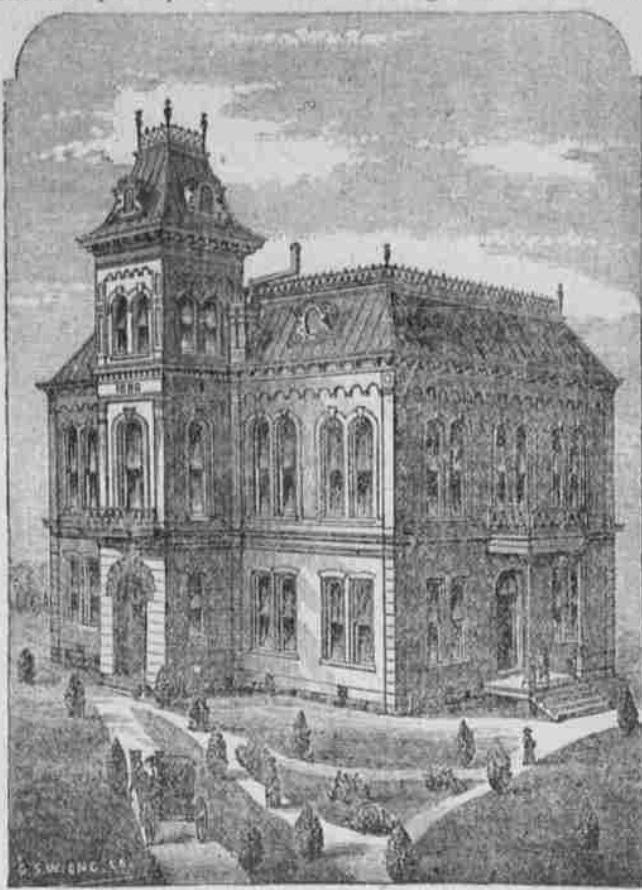
Situated upon an elevated plateau, with an altitude of 723 feet above the sea level, with no river or swamps contiguous, and with excellent drainage, Sherman is considered one of the most healthful cities of Texas, as the records will prove. The per cent. of mortality is astonishingly low. When the epidemics of dengue and the spinal meningitis raged in the other cities of the state this city had but few cases. Typhoid fever, which is the

## A CITY OF SCHOOLS.

Superiority of Sherman's Advantages as an Educational Point—The "Athens of Texas."

Public and Private Schools Well Patronized and of the Highest Efficiency.

If there is any one distinguishing feature that has given a deserved pre-eminence above her sister cities it consists in the number and excellence of her educational institutions. There is not a city in Texas that has so many fine school buildings, both public and private, nor one that

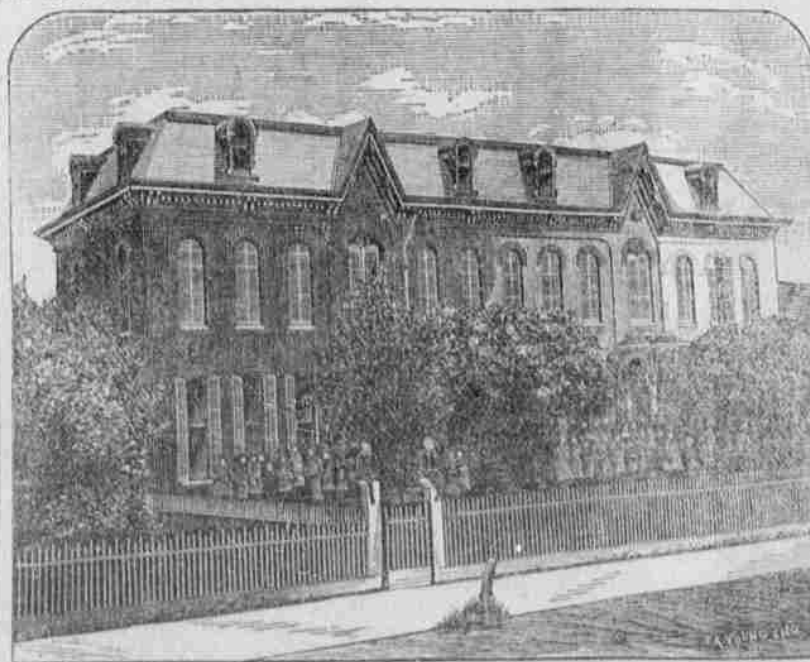


NORTH TEXAS FEMALE COLLEGE.

attracts so many students from a distance. In the fall of 1879 the public schools were taken charge of by the city government and their progress has ever since been highly satisfactory. The first difficulty the trustees had to encounter was the lack of suitable school buildings, but this drawback was obviated by the erection, in the fall of 1882, of a splendid brick structure, capable of accommodating 500 pupils. It was put up at a cost of \$25,000. But even this fine building has been surpassed by the recent construction of a still more commodious and costly school-house on South Travis street, which will be ready for occupancy the ensuing session. As regards architectural beauty, convenience and adaptation to graded-school purposes, it is not surpassed by a like building in the state. These buildings are provided with the best and most modern appointments in the way of ventilation, light, heat and furniture.

The schools were reorganized in September, 1883, by the establishment of grades and a comprehensive curriculum, and this date marks the real beginning of their prosperity. The annual session of 1883 commenced with an attendance of 500 white and 30 colored pupils. At the end of seven months the enrollment of white children had reached 580, and the colored 150. According to a recent report of the efficient superintendent, Prof. N. Somerville, there were during the ten months' session, commencing September 7, 1885, and ending June 11, 1886, 1038 pupils enrolled—771 whites, and 267 colored. Ninety per cent. of the entire number were in daily attendance.

Concerning the PROGRESS OF THE SCHOOLS Prof. Somerville says: To appreciate the rapid progress of our city public schools it is necessary to



ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY.

look back only three years and compare their condition at that time with what it is found to be now. Three years ago the city owned only one small school-building, that in which the colored pupils were taught, the white children having been taught in rented rooms very poorly adapted to school purposes. Now the city owns three fine school-buildings, erected at a cost of about \$60,000, affording twenty-four school-rooms with seating capacity for 1200 pupils. Three years ago the number of teachers employed was only ten and the number of pupils enrolled about 600. Now there are twenty teachers employed and over 1000 pupils enrolled. Three years ago the schools were in a very backward condition, the most advanced pupils being scarcely prepared to enter the sixth grade; to-day the schools are well organized and properly graded, while the pupils have made corresponding advancement in scholarship, the aggregate number of pupils in the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades being eighty-six.

NORTH TEXAS FEMALE COLLEGE Foremost among the institutions of the country that have for their object the higher education of young women stands the splendid school whose name appears above. It was founded in 1870 and was first styled the Sherman Male and Female academy. It was not until the year 1881, however, that the real history of the college begins. In that year the trustees were so fortunate as to secure at the head of the school that distinguished scholar and noted educator, Judge I. M. Oulms. That date marked the dawn of a new era for the institution. Hitherto the patronage was entirely local; but now a man was at the helm whose wise management was to attract students from all quarters of the state, and give standing and dignity and

usefulness unsurpassed by any female college in the South.

Judge Oulms was given a five-years' lease of the college, and at the last meeting of the curators was unanimously chosen to succeed himself. The five years of his administration have been marked with eminent success. In their report the curators say: "We thank God for such a man, and such a president for our college. He has made more and greater sacrifices for it than any other man, and has better acquainted with its situation and its needs. We heartily endorse Judge Oulms in all departments of his work, and bespeak for him the support, sympathy and co-operation of all."

The character of the work done at the North Texas female school is known to be thorough and earnest. It is not a

successful schools in the country than Sherman institute.

LE TELLIER'S ACADEMY A highly esteemed and well patronized school is that conducted by Prof. J. H. Le Tellier. This noted teacher has trained the young idea for many years in Sherman and has done his work well. His system of instruction is pre-eminently distinguished for its thoroughness, as hundreds of grateful parents will testify.

### DR. B. B. PETTIT.

A Few Words of a Personal Nature About a Distinguished Specialist.

The eminent physician whose name appears above, Dr. B. B. Pettit, is about forty years of age, and was born and raised in Auburn, N. Y. His father was a well-known and very successful physician and surgeon, and observing that his son possessed rare genius for surgery gave him every opportunity and advantage which a ripe judgment, backed by an abundance of means, could procure to perfect himself in this most intricate and useful science. The young doctor seized upon his opportunities with all the avidity of one long thirst and soon demonstrated that his father's efforts had not been misdirected. He graduated with the highest honors at a very early age and entered at once into the active practice of his profession. From the first his success was assured, so well did he know the human anatomy, and so rapidly, accurately and skillfully did he perform the most difficult operations that his movements almost seemed as if directed by magic. In 1875, having been called to Texas to perform a very delicate operation on the eye (in which branch he is especially skilled) of a prominent citizen, he was so greatly pleased with the climate and people of the young and growing state, that he settled at Sherman and opened an office there. He very soon built up an excellent practice among the best classes and in a short time his wonderful success as a physician and surgeon spread his name so wide that his services are now in constant demand for hundreds of miles around him.

The doctor's specialties are the eye and ear, and of the thousands whom he has operated upon there is not one who is not willing to testify to his consummate skill and success. His fame as an oculist and aurist is firmly established in the hearts of thousands of grateful patients whom his skill has so greatly benefited.

### PLUCK WON.

Sherman, by an Exhibition of Unsurpassed Public Spirit, Wins a New Road.

Present Railway Facilities and Future Acquisitions—The Spirit of Progress Fully Aroused.

The history of a recent important project is too fresh in the memories of most readers of THE GAZETTE to go over in detail the negotiations by which Sherman has secured for itself another new and very important line of railway. Reference is had to the St. Louis, Arkansas & Texas railroad which, by a formal contract, will be built from Sherman to Mount Pleasant, a distance of 111 miles within the next ten months. The advantages that will accrue to the city from the construction will not be dwelt on here, but it is worth while to recall the fact that to get this road the enterprising people of Sherman raised the enormous subsidy of \$130,000. Two prominent citizens, Messrs. Britton and Lyon, have undertaken to do the grading of the road and are ready to begin work as soon as the surveys are made.

At present Sherman is the junction of the Houston & Texas Central and the Texas & Pacific roads, but she is not satisfied with being the possessor of only two roads. In addition to the St. Louis, Arkansas & Texas, her chances are bright for securing the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, and a branch from Sherman to connect with the main line at some point in the B. I. T. is a certainty of the near future.

SHERMAN AWAKENED TO ACTION. Within the past few months Sherman has shaken off a vast amount of lethargy. The minds of her citizens seem awakened to the realization of the needs of their city, and what must be done to push her to the front in the race for greatness. As an instance may be cited the overwhelming manner in which her people in a recent election voted to bond the city to obtain a system of water-works. This spirit, once it asserts itself, cannot be downed. It will continue to work for the upbuilding of Sherman and will make of it in the end a populous, thrifty and splendidly built city.

Silver Leaf Baking Powder Never fails when the directions are followed, hence there is never a word of complaint heard against it. The inexperienced cook is able to make as good bread with it as the professional baker, simply because its ingredients are so compounded as to make failure impossible when the directions are followed. A trial is all that is necessary to make it indispensable to all well-regulated households.

### Rye, Rye.

Two thousand bushels seed rye for sale. W. F. PATTERSON, Fort Worth, Tex.

Whistling Too Much. Passengers have been complaining that engineers of Erie freight trains have formed the bad habit of blowing the whistles unnecessarily when passing passenger trains. The result is an order forbidding all whistling when passing such trains except when it is necessary for safety. The order has just taken effect.

### Try Just One.

Buy a package of Silver Leaf and give it a fair trial. If you do this you will never regret it. How many disastrous failures in making bread cause troubles vexation in the household? This can all be obviated by a trial of Silver Leaf. J. H. Brown guarantees its purity, strength and efficiency.

### George Gould's Marriage.

The Parisian ladies announce the marriage of Mr. George Gould to Miss Edith Kingston of the Daily Tribune.

If the "children are not feeling well" give them Morris' Cascarine. It will give them a good appetite and make them bright and happy.

Martin Female College, Polaski, Tenn. Before deciding upon a school for your daughters write to this institution for a catalogue showing its advantages.

Bolls and pimples are caused by a poisonous blood. Morris' Cascarine is a purifying specific for the skin, blood, bowels, and disordered liver and constitution.

\$2,000.00 Given Away.

THE GAZETTE'S

FIRST

Semi-Annual Distribution of Valuable Prizes

SEPTEMBER 1, 1886.

The Gazette will on September 1, 1886, inaugurate its system of grand distributions of premiums, and on that date distribute among its subscribers

\$2,000.00 IN PREMIUMS

the distribution being determined by lot and conducted under the personal supervision of gentlemen whose names are given below and who are well known to the people of the state.

EVERY SUBSCRIBER TO THE WEEKLY GAZETTE for one year, or GAZETTE for one year, will be entitled to a chance in the distribution. The subscription price of the Weekly Gazette is \$1.50 per year, and of the Sunday \$2.00 a year, and in THE PAPER ALONE each subscriber receives the lot, the amount paid therefor; but, in addition, the Gazette management will give every mail subscriber to either of the editions mentioned for one year, a titling the holder to a chance in

The Grand Semi-Annual Distribution of Premiums, September 1, 1886, Aggregating \$2,000 in Value.

### THE DISTRIBUTION.

The distribution will be supervised by the following gentlemen, who have kindly to be present and attest the impartiality and fairness of the award:

CAPT. M. B. LOYD, President First National Bank, Fort Worth.  
S. C. EVANS, President B. C. Evans Company, Wholesale Merchants.  
MAX ELZER, Wholesale Stationery.  
S. M. FRY, Root and Shoe Dealer.  
HOWARD TULLY, Jeweler.  
JOHN F. SWANEY, County Clerk, Tarrant County.  
J. M. HARTSFIELD, District Clerk, Tarrant County.  
W. H. TAYLOR, Taylor & Barr, Dry Goods Merchants.  
J. H. BOYD, County Treasurer, Tarrant County.  
W. S. PENDLETON, Representative of Tarrant County.

### THE PRIZES.

The following is a partial list of the prizes to be distributed at the drawing, to which additions will be made as rapidly as possible until the complete program of arrangements now being made.

One Ivers & Pood upright piano.	\$350.00	Heart and Science.	100.00
One "W. A. Hoffman" buggy.	\$150.00	Half Hours with Great Authors.	100.00
One of Pikes & Co.'s choice bedroom sets Furniture.	100.00	Intellectual Life.	100.00
One ten-foot Bird windmill.	100.00	Poems of Passion.	100.00
One J. B. Mitchell wagon.	75.00	Every Day Cook Book.	100.00
One Pikes & Co.'s Folding bed.	70.00	Social Problems.	100.00
One Walter A. Wood mower.	65.00	The Kentucky Housewife.	100.00
High-arm Singer sewing-machine.	55.00	Joseph's Complete Works.	100.00
One Tackabery "Wild West" saddle.	50.00	Popular American Dictionary.	100.00
One No. 10 Norwegian plow.	11.50	Modern Thinkers.	100.00
One case Washko Silurian Water, 50 quarts.	12.50	Taine's English Literature.	100.00
One box, 24 pounds, "Horse Shoe" Tobacco.	13.00	Junius' Letters.	100.00
One box, 15 pounds, "Climax" Tobacco.	8.00	Confessions of an Opium Eater.	100.00
One case, 48 1/2-pound cans, Silver Leaf Baking Powder.	4.00	THE FOLLOWING LIST ARE BOUND IN CLOTH, AND ARE WORTH \$2,000.00.	
One case, 12 1/2-pound cans, Silver Leaf Baking Powder.	2.50	Aurora Floyd, Braden.	
One case Common Sewing Soap.	3.50	Admiral's Ward, Alexander.	
ONE-HALF PECK MEASURE WATERBURY WATCHES.		Airy Fairy Lullaby, "The Day All in a Garden, Beautiful Castles, Bulwer.	
Daily Gazette, one year.	10.00	David Copperfield, Dickens.	
Daily Gazette, six months.	5.50	Deedslayer, Cooper.	
Daily Gazette, three months.	3.00	Dora Thorne, Clay.	
Sunday Gazette, one year.	2.00	Dunallan, Kennedy.	
Chambers' Encyclopedia, 6 vols., half-morocco.	80.00	Emerson's Essays, Emerson.	
Irving's Works, 10 vols., half-alligator.	25.00	Emerson's Lectures, Emerson.	
Dickens's Works, 15 vols., half-morocco.	45.00	Grandfather's Chair, Hawthorne.	
George Eliot's Works, 8 vols., half-morocco.	24.00	Green Mountain Boys, Taine.	
Carlyle's Works, 11 vols., half-alligator.	38.00	Harry Lorrequer, Lever.	
Lord Lytton's Works, 13 vols., half-alligator.	32.50	Horseshoe Robinson, Rogers.	
Macaulay's History of England, 5 vols., half-alligator.	12.00	Hyperion and Outre Men, Tolstoy.	
Carlyle's English People, 4 vols., half-alligator.	19.00	Knipkerbocker's History of Irving.	
Gibbon's Rome, 5 vols., half-alligator.	15.00	Lady Audley's Secret, Braddon.	
Guizot's History of France, 8 vols., half-morocco.	32.00	Manual of Ancient History, Moly Bawn, "The Duke of Montmorency, Collins.	
Dore's Bible Gallery, full-morocco.	10.00	Newcomen, Thackeray.	
Dante's Inferno, full-morocco.	10.00	Pelham, Bulwer.	
Purgatory and Paradise, full-morocco.	10.00	Pendennis, Thackeray.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	9.00	Pickwick Papers, Dickens.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Pilot, Cooper.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Portia; or, by Passion Bled.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Princess of Thule, Black Sea Queen, Russell.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Secret Despatch, Grant.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Spy, Cooper.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Thirty Years' War, Schiller.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Twice Told Tales, Hawthorne.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Under Two Flags, Ondaatje.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Wanda, Ondaatje.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Widow Bedott, Whitcomb.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Wooling O'it, Alexander.	
Paradise Lost, full-morocco.	10.00	Yolande, Black.	

The following books are handsomely bound in cloth and are worth \$2,000.00. They are specially selected for our premium list.

Smiles' Self-Help.	1.50
Smiles' Duty.	1.50
Smiles' Thrift.	1.50
Smiles' Character.	1.50
Two Thousand and Ten Choice Quotations.	1.25
Macaulay's Life and Letters.	1.50
Dore's Wandering Jew, Illustrated.	1.50
Bacon's Essays.	1.50
Treasures, New and Old.	1.50
John Stuart Mill on "Liberty."	1.00
Laurel Leaves.	4.00
Lotus Leaves.	4.00
Brown's Poetical Works, Illustrated.	4.50
Byron's Poetical Works, Illustrated.	4.50
Moore's Poetical Works, Illustrated.	4.50
Children of the Abbey.	1.25
Tales, by Poe.	1.25
Don Quixote.	1.00
Fern Leaves.	1.00
Scottish Chiefs.	1.00
Gulliver's Travels.	1.00
Sketch Book, Irving's.	1.00

### Explanatory Description

Of the principal prizes will be advertised in these columns from week to week until it is completed, and very attention will be given to the exactness of the list made in order that the great numbers who are sending in their subscriptions will have a chance in this attractive distribution.

Every Person Subscribing or Renewing the subscription to the Weekly Gazette or the Sunday Gazette,

From this date will receive a ticket entitling him to a chance in the distribution.

### TO ANY ADDRESS.

Either the Sunday or Weekly Gazette will be sent to any address desired, and a TICKET FOR EVERY YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION will be sent to the subscriber for more than one year. Address all orders, with the money, to

DEMOCRAT PUBLISHING CO.

Fort Worth, Texas.



GRAYSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

new town in a buggy during the first session of the district court, and from that humble start built up a large business.

The town was named in honor of Col. Sidney Sherman, a hero in the Texas war of independence. Col. Sherman was a native of Massachusetts, but went to Newport, Ky., where he engaged in manufacturing bagging. Fired with enthusiasm to assist a people struggling for their liberty, he raised and equipped a company of fifty men whom he led to Texas. He was elected colonel of the second regiment on the banks of the Brazos, February, 1836. He was the first to sound the soul-stirring cry, "Remember the Alamo! Goliad and the Alamo!" on the immortal battle-field of San Jacinto. His closing years were full of sorrow, and he died in poverty at Galveston in 1873.

In 1858 Sherman was first incorporated as a town. N. B. Anderson was the first mayor, the town then having about 500 inhabitants. A special charter was obtained in 1872, which was in force till October, 1875, when the people voted to adopt the present charter, and the corporate authority embraced four square miles.

For five years prior to this Sherman had enjoyed uncommon prosperity; but on Sunday night, November, 1875, an event happened which was a serious check to its growth. On that night occurred a fire of appalling destructiveness, that laid in ruins more than half the business portion of the town. It was caused by the explosion of a coal-oil lamp in a hotel on South Travis street. The fire was borne by a strong wind across the street into a block of buildings owned by Judge Silas Hare, which were soon consumed. Thence the flames spread north along Travis street, and all the buildings save one went down on the east side of the square. On the south side of the square not a house was left standing. All efforts to stay the fury of the fire fiend were vain. The total loss was estimated to be \$400,000, with not over \$50,000 insurance. Ere long the burnt district was again built up, but this time with substantial structures of brick and stone. Since then the growth of the city has been gradual but steady, and to-day Sherman has at a moderate computation not less than 10,000 people.

The present officials of the city are as follows: Mayor, C. N. Buckler; marshal, John M. Blain; clerk, B. J. Cunningham; assessor and collector, W. E. Oxford; treasurer, W. J. Boyer; attorney, John Hedrick; engineer, A. Q. Nash; aldermen: First ward, Lee Totten, Robert Harvey; Second ward, M. H. Andrews, C. F. Gribble; Third ward, R. G. Hall, Jake Levy; Fourth ward, C. L. Stowe, J. P. Rich.

### PUBLIC ENTERPRISES.

The General Welfare not Neglected in a City of 10,000 People.

Among the public conveniences of Sherman is the street railway, which was chartered and constructed by a stock company in 1876, and put in operation in June, 1877. The line begins at the Union depot and passes through the center of the city to the driving park in the southern suburbs, a distance of over two miles. It is well equipped and under the judicious

### Increase of Wealth.

In 1870 the total valuation of city property, as is shown by the assessor's books, was \$1,070,662; in 1880, \$1,014,330; in 1884, \$2,241,357.

For 1885 the figures cannot be presented, but a moderate estimate would not place the total for the present year under \$2,500,000. While it is not claimed that these figures represent a phenomenal increase in material property, they do exhibit a continuous and healthy growth that demonstrates the solidity of Sherman's